



BRITAIN AND MUSLIMS

by

IWAJA JAMIL AHMAD

Britain and Muslims

A HISTORICAL REVIEW

By

KHWAJA JAMIL AHMAD

Urdu Academy Sind

KARACHI

★

First Edition ... November 1971

1000 Copies

★

PRICE

Three Rupees Seventy-five Paisa Only

Rupees Four only

Rs.

★

Printed at :
BABUL ISLAM PRINTING PRESS
KARACHI.

Dedication

To

Maulana Hasrat Mohani

the

Valiant Freedom Fighter

for

India & Pakistan

and

an embodiment of Iqbal's

"MARDE MOMIN"

(True Muslim)

BRITAIN AND MUSLIMS

CONTENTS

—※—

Preface

Never before in the world was born a nation so well versed in the art of diplomacy and deceit than that which lived in the island separated by the English Channel from the main European continent. The British nation, which had established an Empire spreading over the five continents of the world in which the Sun did not set, had not only mastered the theories on statecraft of Machiaveli and Chanakya but had even added to these. The world has witnessed many great conquerors like Alexander, Julius Caesar, Hannibal, Khalid Ibn Waleed, Changiz Khan, Tamerlane, Tariq Bin Ziyad, Mohammad Bin Qasim, Salahuddin Ayyubi, Bayazied Yaldarim Mohammad the Conqueror, Zahiruddin Babar and Napoleon Bonaparte who had won great battles and carved out extensive empires for themselves and their people. But, the

great British Empire was not won on the battlefields, but through intrigues and frauds. All sorts of shady dealings which the human intelligence could conceive were employed by the "civilized" Britons for attaining their objects.

The present book is a short study into the British machinations and intrigues against the Muslims, their most formidable rivals in the three old continents of the world—Asia, Africa and Europe. A more comprehensive work in Urdu, detailing Anglo-Muslim relations extending over several centuries will follow shortly.

KHWAJA JAMIL AHMAD

Kashanai Zubaida,
3/5-E/IV. Nazimabad,
Karachi.
October 1971.

Britain and the Muslims

A HISTORICAL AND POLITICAL REVIEW

Britain has proved to be an inveterate enemy of the Muslim world during the last seven or eight centuries. In almost all the conspiracies which were started to harm the Muslim countries during the last 250 years or more, Britain's hand is visible. The global policy of the vast British Empire which had occupied such vantage points in the Middle and Far East as Gibralter, Malta,Suez, Cyprus,

Aden and Singapore, was primarily aimed at controlling, exploiting and subjugating the Muslim world. Almost all the Muslim countries, including Turkey and Palestine, Egypt and Sudan, Arabian Peninsula and Iraq, Persian Gulf States and Iran, Pakistan and Nigeria, Indonesia and Malaysia had been victims of British machinations and intrigues. The Briton possesses the cleverness of a beast of prey but not its bravery. He always prefers to stab in the back. In India, the Britons came in the guise of merchants but very cleverly they seized the whole of the country. Clive and Warren Hastings, Lord Hastings and Lord Cornwallis, Mountbatten and Radcliffe are some of their repugnant characters who are well known for their anti-Muslim role in India.

—*—

THE GREAT SALADIN

Britain made its first contact with the Muslim world during the Third Crusades when the fall of Jerusalem in 1193 had thrown the Christendom into a violent commotion and reinforcement was rushed to save the Holy Land. Richard, the "Lion-hearted" King of England, had the misfortune of facing the Great Saladin who rolled back the combined forces of the Christian Europe and the "Lion-hearted" King of England returned home, a disappointed and disgraced man. His cold-blooded butchery of the helpless, hungry and pestilence-stricken Muslims of Acre, his conspiracy to win over Saladin's brother Malik Al-Adil by offering to marry his beautiful sister with him and his last gamble to get the Sultan assassinated by the Assassins could not succeed. Richard had to beg for peace from the Great Saladin at last, which was made on Sultan's terms.

NEW ROUTE TO INDIA

The so-called discovery of a new route to India, the "Golden Bird" of the East, by Vasco De Gama in 1498 opened the East to the sea-faring European adventurers of Portugal, France and Britain who later on established themselves at certain coastal points on the Indian sub-continent. The much publicised discovery of the new route to India via Cape of Good Hope by Vasco De Gama was, in fact, known to the Arab sailors long before and the well-known Arab navigator, Abdul Majid, had piloted the ship of the Portuguese explorer.

The Portuguese and the French who came to India were mostly sailors, traders and pirates. But the Britons, who set up the East India Company first at Surat and later at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, seemed to be guided by sinister motives of political domination over the sub-continent.

—*—

DECLINE OF MOGHAL EMPIRE

On the death of the greatest of the Moghal Emperors, Aurangzeb Alamgeer, started the downfall of the Moghal Empire, which disintegrated into several independent principalities during the reign of Mohammad Shah. Aurangzeb's successors were too incapable and weak to hold together his vast Empire which was being attacked from all sides, by Marhattas, Rajputs, Sikhs and Jats.

It was a period of great political turmoil and turbulence in India when trade and industry received severe setback. But, strangely enough, the British East India Company, a body of political and economic exploiters rather than real businessmen, thrived immensely during the period and found the atmosphere exceedingly congenial for its growth.

Writing in his, "Discovery of Pakistan" Mr. A. Aziz rightly observes: "The rise of British power in India forms one of the most outstanding events of the world; but not a single

ray of heroism, of chivalry or even vulgar bravery illuminates the dark pages of history that records its progress. On the throne, in the camp, or in the court, in vain, one would search for names, characters or deeds, that would be entitled to the admiration of the world, or deserve to be rescued from oblivion. In vain one would look for a campaign to tempt our curiosity; no siege or battle of any singular difficulty nor a hard-won success to warm our hearts; nor an event which could leave behind some moral lesson, to engage our affection. India was not won on a battlefield; it fell to the British hands piecemeal as an inevitable consequence of a long series, spreading over a century or so, of the wily intrigues initiated by Clive in 1756 and the frauds worked by the "great Englishman" and his successors upon the unsuspecting peoples of this land. No promise, nor oaths could bind those "great Englishmen" nor any treaty or submission could secure peace. Friendship and peace were on their lips while perfidy and aggression were in their hearts. Falsehood and deceit marked their transactions,

public or private, and are engraven on the eternal rocks of India. Their own historians are even astonished by the success of their deceptions. The memory of those adventures at best is comparable with that of a man who entered like a thief, exploited like a wolf and expired like a cowardly hypocrite."

The Muslim Kingdom of Bengal was the first to fall a victim to the British intrigues. Robert Clive who is hailed as a hero in British History, employed all sorts of tactics and intrigues to get rid of Sirajuddaula, the Muslim ruler of Bengal, who had sensed the British evil intention to dominate over India. The additional fortifications erected in the Fort William by the East India Company, despite Sirajuddaula's forbiddance obliged him to march against and occupy Calcutta. The much advertised story of the 'Black Hole" of Calcutta concocted by the British historians simply to justify the later misdeeds of their countrymen has been proved totally baseless by the modern historical research. Robert Clive conspired with Mir Jafer, Jagat Seth, Ray Durlabh and

Manik Chand for the dethronement of Sirajud-daula. Mir Jafer was promised the throne of Bengal while Manik Chand was duped by Clive who promised to pay him Rs. 3 lacs through forged documents.

In his well known work, "The Decisive Battles of India", Col. G.B. Malleson writes: "The so-called "Battle of Plassey" was "a farce and not even a skirmish"; but, as a victory, Plassey was in its consequences, perhaps, "the greatest ever gained." "There never was a battle, of which the consequences were so vast, so immediate, and so permanent. From the very morrow of the victory, the English became virtual masters of Bengal, Bihar, and Orissa. From the base it gave them, a base resting on the sea, and, with proper care, unassailable, they were able to extend their authority beyond the Indus, their influence amongst peoples of whose existence even Europe was at that time profoundly ignorant It was Plassey which made England the greatest "Mohammadan" power in the world; Plassey which forced her to become one of the main factors in the settlement of the burning Eastern question:

Plassey which necessitated the conquest and colonization of the Cape of Good Hope, of the Mauritius, the protectorship over Egypt; Plassey which gave to the sons of her middle classes the finest field for the development of their talent and industry the world has ever known; to her aristocracy unrivalled opportunities for the display of administrative power; to her merchants and manufacturers customers whose enormous demands almost compensate for the hostile tariffs of her rivals, and, alas even of her colonies; to the skilled artisan remunerative employment; to her people generally a noble feeling of pride in the greatness and glory of the Empire of which a little island in the Atlantic is the parent stem, Hindustan the noblest branch; it was Plassey, which, in its consequences, brought consolation to that little island for the loss of America."

After Nawab's defeat in the Battle of Plassey in 1757 in which a major portion of his forces commanded by the traitors Mir Jafer and Ray Durlabh did not take part, Sirajuddaula was killed. Mir Jafer was installed on the throne only to remain a puppet in British

hands and was entrusted with much less powers than that he wielded under Sirajuddaula.

The shameful treatment of Mir Jafer and Mir Qassim at the hands of the British provides a painful lesson for all traitors who sacrifice the interest of their country for their selfish ends. Col. G. B. Malleson correctly observes: "The annals of no nation contain records of conduct more unworthy, more mean, and more disgraceful, than that which characterised the English Government of Calcutta during the three years which followed the removal of Mir Jafer. That conduct is attributable to one cause, the basest and meanest of all, the desire for personal gain by any means and at any cost. It was the same longing which has animated the robber of the Northern clime, the pirate of the Southern Sea, which has stimulated individuals to robbery, even to murder. In point of morality, the members of the governing clique of Calcutta from 1761 to 1763 were not one whit better than the perpetrators of such deeds."

—*—

ROBERT CLIVE

The British East India Company of Calcutta, under the evil genius of Robert Clive, a man of obscure birth, had embarked upon a game of intrigue and fraud. He betrayed all those persons including Mir Jafer and his son-in-law Mir Qasim, who had helped him to acquire power in Bengal and Bihar. Col. G.B. Malleson, in his monumental work, "Decisive Battles in India", states: "The cheek of every honest Englishman must burn with shame as he reads the account of the policy adopted by the leading men amongst his countrymen in India, a hundred and twenty years ago, towards the native ruler who had bought from the Calcutta Council his position, and whose only subsequent fault in their eyes was his endeavour to protect his subjects from European extortion."

After ten years of plunder and oppression, Clive left India for good in February, 1767. While describing the rapine and extortion of money, Scrafton observes: "Mir Jafer was in fact no more than a banker for the Company's

servants who could draw upon him as often and to as great an amount as they pleased." It was, in the words of Spear, "the period of plunder in Bengal, when Clive marvelled at his own moderation and a man might make a fortune in a few years, lose it in England, make a second and lose it second time and return to India for a third." The fiendish and debased nature of Clive had even refused to Ami Chand Bania the well earned reward for his betrayal to his country. "The greed for money," observes Col. Malleson, "the ever-increasing demand for the augmentation of the sum originally asked for, the dishonouring trick by which a confederate was to be baulked of his share in the spoil; these are actions the contemplation of which makes, and will always make, the heart of an honest man burn with indignation." "The treasures, the wealth and the rich produce of Bengal were squeezed to England; the unfortunate province groaned under grinding yoke of the English exploiters; and "the human result" of that unrelenting avarice, extortion, and plunder "was the terrible Bengal famine of 1770," when, according to Percival Spear, "the Company congratulated itself on a

good revenue collection in spite of it." The famine indeed was terrible—"Men deserted their wives and children. Women sold themselves as slaves. Mothers sold their children. Children, deserted by their parents, sold themselves. Some families took poison and so died together; others threw themselves into the rivers. Mothers and children went to the river-bank and drowned themselves, hand in hand, so that the rivers flowed full of corpses. Some ate carrion flesh. Others cut up the corpses of men and drew out the entrails to fill their own bellies; men lying in the streets, not yet dead, were cut up by others; and men fed on living men, so that even in the streets and still more on road journeys men ran a great danger of being murdered and eaten.........Many hundred thousands of men died of hunger, so that the whole country was covered with corpses lying unburied......But the calamity could excite no mercy from the tyrants, nor move them to suspend their loot and extortion, nor could persuade them to help the sons of the soil in the hour of distress. The end was tragic and lamentable; one-third to one-half of the inhabitants expired." (S.W. Frazer's "British India.")

WARREN HASTINGS

Lord Clive, the notorious "Founder of British Empire in India" was succeeded by Warren Hastings as Governor General of India, "a man," according to Burke, "whose origin was low, obscure and vulgar and bred in vulgar and ignoble habits". He was a past-master in intrigues and exhortion of illegal money from the native rulers. He forcibly seized the treasure of Begum of Oudh in broad daylight, after subjecting her to unbearable mental and physical torture. He was instrumental in the murder of Nand Kumar, Raja of Benares. British orator Desmond Burke, impeached him in the British Parliament, for his shameful misconduct and sheer brigandage, describing him as "a Captain—General of iniquity, one in whom all the fraud all the tyranny of India are embodied, disciplined and arrayed." Burke charged him with "avarice, rapacity, pride, cruelty, ferocity, malignity of temper, haughtiness, insolence, in short, everything that manifests a heart blackened

to the very blackest, a heart dyed deep in blackness, a heart gangrened to the core." Hastings 'murdered' Nand Kumar by the hands of Sir Elijah Impey. He "is not satisfied without sucking the blood of fourteen hundred nobles. He is never corrupt without creating a famine.........He is like the ravenous vulture who feeds on the dead and the enfeebled." He is a "swindling Mecaenas," a bad scribbler of absurd papers, who could never put two sentences of sense together." Humanity is shocked at the fiendish intrigues and the unparalleled brutalities that he perpetrated under the cover of treacherous friendship on the unsuspecting inhabitants of this land. "Such" remarked Burke, "are the damned and damnable proceedings of a judge in hell, and such a judge was Warren Hastings." In his closing remarks, Burke described Hastings as "a captain-general of iniquity, thief, tyrant, robber, cheat, swindler, sharper...... ..the common enemy and oppressor of mankind."

—*—

HAIDER ALI'S VALOUR

Thereafter, the British moved fast. They routed their rivals, the French, on the Coromandal coast and started to subjugate, more through deceit than by valour, the local rulers, one by one. The Subsidiary System introduced by Lord Wellesley was a clever move by the British to dominate India. It was resented by Haider Ali, the ruler of Mysore, who proved to be the most formidable adversary of the alien power. He scored resounding victories against the British forces assisted by the Nizam and the Marhattas.

Hyder Ali descended "like an avalanche" from the plateau and through rapid marches drove the British army out of the Mysore territory. He overran the British territory and reached 42 miles from Madras - the Headquarter of the enemy. The campaigns that followed "witnessed incomparable deeds of valour and military genius of Hyder Ali. In the speed and secrecy of his

march, in the order and evolutions of the battle, his enemies felt and admired the military talents of the Mysore ruler." Col. Malleson observes: "The left of the English force was at Kanchipurram; its right at Parmbakam, with Haider Ali between the two, ready to fall upon the left a moment it should show the smallest indication to assist the right, round which Tipu was hovering. Haider Ali had, in fact, executed one of those manoeuvres which twenty-four years later were to characterise the first campaign of the greatest general (Napoleon Bonaparte) the world has ever seen". Haider Ali captured many British strongholds in the South and was intending to march on Madras when death over-took him.

VALIANT TIPU SULTAN

Haider Ali's valiant son, Tipu Sultan, is recognised as one of the most enlightened rulers of his time who had formulated plans to overthrow the alien power from the sacred soil of India. This formidable hero, one of the greatest fighters for the liberation of the sub-continent, did all he could to check the growing power of the British East India Company which was planning to usurp the entire country. He wrested Bednore and Mangalore in 1784, whereby the British had to recognise the Tipu Sultan's right to certain districts, claimed by the Nizam. The British, as usual, had no intention of honouring the Treaty made with Tipu Sultan more than was necessary. Hardly the ink of the Treaty had dried up, when the British Governor-General Lord Cornwallis, formed a Triple Alliance in conjunction with the Nizam and Marhattas directed against Tipu Sultan. This was a clear breach of the Treaty by the British. The gallant fighter, Tipu Sultan, took up arms against

a formidable alliance of the British, Nizam and Marhattas assisted by the traitors occupying high civil and military posts, in the Kingdom of Mysore. Tipu Sultan's dominions were invaded from three sides and had he not been deceived by some of his highest dignitaries who were in league with the British, "the Lion of Mysore" would have shattered the combined forces formed under the Triple Alliance. But British intrigues worked well as usual and in 1799 the Company's forces reached the gates of Mysore's Capital, Sringapattam, unchecked. The traitor Minister of Mysore, Mir Sadiq, opened a side gate of the city for entry of British army and Tipu Sultan, like a gallant warrior died, sword in hand. The British Governor-General, on learning the death of Tipu Sultan, cried out; "Now India is ours".

The East India Company now directed its attention to the dwindling Moghal Empire. It had cleverly obtained the "Diwani" of Bengal from the Moghal Emperor Shah Alam in 1765 and now wanted to make him its vassal. Lord Wellesley, says Professor Spear, in his well known work, "Twilight of the Moghals",

desired to possess "the name and authority of the Moghals", for pursuing their nefarious designs of seizing and exploiting the sub-continent. "He (Governor General Wellesley) would appear not as his Minister, but as his protector, not as his Agent, but as his overlord. He would deliver Shah Alam from Marhattas discourtesy but not from oppression; for Marhattas oppression he would substitute a British usurpation. Shah Alam was not to be a puppet, but a pensionary".

—*—

ROHILLAS

The British Governor Generals successfully used their perfected policy of divide and rule, by playing one Muslim ruler against another. They encouraged the Nawab of Oudh to rebel against the authority of the titular Moghal Emperor and call himself a King. They instigated and assisted Shujauddaula, the Nawab of Oudh, to wage a decisive war against Hafiz Rehmat Khan, the ruler of Rohilkhand, who had been a pillar of Muslim strength in India and a stumbling block in the British design, to occupy the country.

Throwing all decencies and alliances to winds, the British aggressors threw off their mask and marched into Rohilkand on April 17, 1774. When all persuasion to dissuade the British from invading the country of an ally failed, Hafiz Rehmat Khan addressed Champion, the English Commander-in-Chief thus: "It is glorious to die a brave man and inglorious to submit to bastards. Pursue your impious design.

My trust is in God alone. If He delivers the field into your hand, I shall submit without a murmur. But until the Judge of the Earth and the Skies shall pronounce between us, it is my duty to live and die in defence of my people."

The rival forces met at Miranpur Katra on April 23,1774. A cannon ball struck the Rohilla Chief, Hafiz Rehmat Khan, and decided the fate of the battle in the favour of Englishmen. Thereafter ensued an unprecedented carnage in which the "Civilized" Englishmen, vied with each other in slaughtering the Rohillas wherever they were found in fields, houses or streets. Neither age nor sex were spared. Their habitations streamed with blood, echoed with cries of children and shrieks of outraged virgins. According to Mill, "every one who bore the name of Rohilla was either butchered or found his safety in flight and in exile." Macaulay says: "There then a hundred thousand people fled from their homes to pestilential jungles, rather than to endure the tyranny of him whom the Christian Government had sold their substance, their blood, and the honour of their wives and children. And Hastings looked on

with folded arms while their villages burned, their children butchered and their women violated."

The British East India Company gradually crushed the authority of the Moghal Emperor. In 1844, Lord Ellenbrough stopped the presentation of "Nazar" and "Khiliats", and the British East India Company usurped the Imperial authority.

—*—

ANNEXATION OF OUDH

The annexation of the Oudh by Lord Dalhousie just before the uprising of 1857 proved to be the last straw to break the camel's back. It was considered the most unjust usurpation from every point of view - moral and political and it is considered as the direct cause of 1857 uprising. Sir Charles Outram admits: "I had witnessed the indignation which the very rumour of this purpose caused among the sepoys of my own guard. My observation led to the conclusion that they were thoroughly angered and little later, their minds were mysteriously worked upon revolt".

The large scale annexation of Muslim territories and their economic exploitation was the direct result of industrial transformation in Britain.

—*—

ANGLO-AFGHAN WAR

The Anglo-Afghan wars provided an abject lesson to the ambitious British Government which wanted to grab the Afghan territory for protecting their interests in India against the possible Russian intervention. But their exploits and adventures in Afghanistan failed miserably. They were slaughtered and driven out of that country three times and swore never to enter in it again. R.W. Frazer describes the British entry into Kabul in 1841 as follows: "A fierce rage daily burned in the hearts of the tribes, as the hated invaders wandered through their villages, and passed down their streets, treating with haughty contempt their jealous looks, and they swore that not an invader would leave the country alive."

Akbar Khan, the valiant son of Dost Mohammad, king of Kabul, inflicted defeats after defeats on the intriguing Britons, who

never kept up their word of honour. This obliged the British Envoy, Sir William Macnaghten to conclude a humiliating Treaty with Akbar Khan. But the Englishmen, as usual swore to betray. They continued their game, intrigues and fraud. The British Envoy even tried to bribe the brave son of Dost Mohammad, offering him a pension of £ 400,000 and the Prime Ministership of the British stooge, Shah Shuja. But the British Envoy was paid in his own coin. "Akbar Khan feigned to agree at all and inveigled Macnaghten into an interview on the neighbouring slopes of the Siya Sang Hills, where the new treaty might in secret be ratified. On December 23, Macnaghten, with George Lawrence, Captain Colin Mackenzie, and Captain Trevor, rode forth to meet Akbar Khan, who sat waiting on a mound about two hundred yards from the cantonments, surrounded by his chieftains." As they drew near, Akbar Khan the caught envoy Macnaghten by the left wrist; the envoy struggled and cried out, "For the love of God!" With a sharp retort from Akbar: "Is it for the same love of God that you invaded our country and despoiled our homes. You forget the same love of God

when you rob others of their freedom and enslave their country." The envoy was hewn to pieces, and his head "was carried to Kabul, paraded through the city, and then hung up in the market-place for the crowd to jeer at. Lawrence and Mackenzie were seized and carried away on horseback. Trevor was cut down as he attempted to escape. The garrison watched the affray from the cantonments, in their conternation crowding round Macnaghten's escort as it rode back, to learn full details of the disaster. The cry was for an immediate retreat to Jalalabad, where Sir Robert Sale was entrenched. On New Year's Day of 1842 all the enemy's demands were acceded to, Hostages were given for the immediate evacuation of the country."

Later on, the British were forced to retreat from Kabul and had to wade their way through the stinging snow and a continued shower of Afghan bullets. On January 10, 1842, only a quarter of the British forces was left. According to Robert, adds R.W. Frazer, "the retreat became a rout, the rout a massacre." "Thus considerably thinned, the retiring troops made

the last desperate stand at the Pass of Jagdalak on the 11th January only to lose twelve of their officers. Of the 26, 500 men that had started from Kabul a week before, all were destroyed excepting 120 prisoners under Akbar Khan and only one, Dr. Brydon, reached Jalalabad, to narrate the painful story of the tragic retreat."

—※—

MUSLIMS SUSPECTED

Since the Muslims had been the rulers of the sub-continent before the British took over, every effort of the Muslims to improve themselves socially or politically was looked upon with suspicion by the alien power. In order to ensure the progress of textile industry of Manchester and Liverpool, the British East India Company contrived the forcible extinction of skilled and fine arts industries in the sub-continent, mostly monopolised by Muslims, These included the Dacca muslin industry. A large number of Dacca muslin artisans were deprived of their thumbs by the British East India Company agents. Muslims who monopolised posts in Army, Administration and learned professions were slowly driven out of these posts and their further recruitment was stopped. Persian which since many centuries was the State language in the country was replaced by English. This was naturally a step against the Muslim interests and was much resented by them. The freedom of Islamic studies was curtailed and, instead, the Christian missionaries were encouraged and patronised by the

British East India Company who gave them a free hand to convert Indian people to Christianity. All these action embittered Muslims against the alien rule. "The educated Mohammaden", writes Sir William Hunter, "confident in his old training, sees himself particularly excluded from the share of power and of the emoluments of Government, which he hitherto almost monopolised, and sees these and all the other advantages of life passed into the hands of the hated Hindu. Discontent has filled the minds of the better educated Mohammadens... A hundred years ago, the Mohammadens monopolised all the important offices of the State. The Hindus accepted such crumbs as their former conquerors dropped from their table......A hundred seventy years ago it was also impossible for a well-known Mussalman in Bengal to become poor; at present it was impossible for him to continue rich. No Mohammaden gentlemen of birth can enter Regiments; and even if a place could be found for him in our military system, the place would no longer be a source of wealth".

—*—

1857 WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

Thus the British East India Company's economic and political exploitation of the country was particularly aimed at the political, economic and social extinction of Muslims. The discontent prevalent among the Indian Muslims aggravated by the loss of their economic, political and social status and still more by the large-scale Christian missionary activities in the sub-continent culminated in the so called "Revolt of 1857".

The Revolt flared up in several cities of Northern India during 1857 and had not the British been assisted by the treachery of our own men (native Indians) the history of the sub-continent would have been quite different Delhi, the old Capital of the Moghal Empire was the place for the trial of strength between the native and alien forces. The native forces did well in the beginning but their disorganisation, lack of leadership and treacheries of their own men heralded their doom. The British who are past masters in the fifth column activities

purchased the loyalties of a number of dignitaries living in Delhi and even inside the Red Fort. Even a close relation of the Moghal Emperor Bahadur Shah, Mirza Elahi Bux, was in league with the British invaders. The victors themselves admitted, there was a "traitor hidden beneath every paving stone in Delhi........."

The alien rulers were assisted by the soldiers of Punjab - both Sikhs and Muslims - in suppressing the first war of Independence. Lawrence correctly observes: "Had the Punjab gone, we must have been ruined. Long before reinforcements could have reached the upper provinces, the bones of all Englishmen would have been bleaching in the sun. England could never had recovered the calamity and retrieved her power in the East."

—*—

SACK OF DELHI

The entry of the victorious British forces in Delhi degenerated into a holocaust, which pales into insignificance the massacres of Halaku and Chengiz Khan. Mosques and holy places were desecrated, innocent men, women and children were dragged out of their houses and subjected to most heinous brutalities. The victorious soldiers were given free licence to plunder the city, and raze to the ground its magnificent buildings. Even the Moghal Princes were beheaded in the presence of the aged Moghal Emperor.

"In the City", reports Moinuddin, "no life was safe. All able-bodied men who were seen were taken for rebels and shot". Mrs. Sanders, wife of the Deputy Commissioner of Delhi wrote: "Every native that could be found was killed by the soldiers. The troops were completely disorganised and demoralised by the immense amount of plunder which fell into their hands".

The whole population of the Imperial city, Delhi, was driven out by the alien victors. "The principal mosques were occupied by the British troops and some of these were demolished on the ground that they were the rallying points of the Muslims".

It is an irony of history that the Moghal Emperor, Bahadur Shah who was the legal ruler of the sub-continent has been treated as a rebel against the East India Company which was in reality in revolt against his authority. The trial of the aged Moghal Emperor lasted from January 27 to March 9, 1858 and he was deported as an exile to Rangoon.

Thereafter started a reign of terror against the Muslims throughout India in which all sorts of persecution, repression and aggression were let loose by the alien rulers.

The sack of Delhi, cannot be described in words. The victorious Englishmen and their accomplices had thrown all decency and moral values to winds in wrecking vengeance on the defenceless inhabitants of the Imperial city

which had been the Queen of the East for the last thousand years or more. Mr. A. Aziz in his well known work, "Discovery of Pakistan" observes: "Furious bigotry of the enemy, educated in the prejudices and religion of Peter the Hermit and nurtured and shaped amidst the traditions of the Crusades, pillaged, defiled and defaced the mosques, tombs and the houses of prayer and slaughtered with "pious" zeal the trembling multitudes of women and children and of the innocent and defenceless population who had sought protection of the houses of God. The holy books were profaned in the name of Christianity and burnt by their sacrilegious hands. The principal mosques all over the country were seized and confiscated. Licentiousness polluted the prayer halls of the famous Jamia Mosque of Delhi; prostitutes were brought in to sing and dance amidst the deep and silent curses of the chained and helpless spectators (Muslims) who were brought to witness their God humbled and their women violated. From brothel house, it was later turned into stable. The house of God suffered the vices and indignities for seven years up to 1865 when "clemency" of the rulers

decided to auction the mosque. The Fatehpuri Masjid (Delhi) experienced yet a worse fate; Stained with the blood of thousands of innocent lives, it was turned into a military barrack; its quadrangle and shops were auctioned to a Brahmanic bania; and for over thirty years this house of worship endured the scandals and licentiousness of the British troops. The beautiful "Zeenatul Masajid" (Ornament of Mosques) in the Daryaganj quarter (Delhi) built by daughter of Aurangzeb and famous for its beauty and the taste of its builder, after having been stripped of its gold and silver, was delivered to flames and all that breathed therein perished. Thus defiled and defaced, the famous mosque was turned into a bakery store and was peopled by rats and pigeons for about fifty years.

"Delhi had yet another writhing misfortune to its lot. The victorious commander of the imperial city fondly believed that wealth of nations and of centuries lay deposited in this seat of royalty and commerce. After his licentious troops had satiated their rage and avarice, an edict was promulgated which enjoined all per-

sons without distinction of sex or rank to deliver without delay or fraud their gold, silver, jewels, and valuable apparels and utensils to the Imperial Officers. Every species of indignity and torture was employed to force from the trembling people a discovery of their hidden wealth; and the attempt to secret any part of their patrimony was instantly and inexorably punished with death and torture as an act of disloyalty and treason against the State. After this humiliation and having been thus relieved of their valuables, the defenceless people were obliged to evacuate their homes and hearths where they and their parents had been born, brought up and lived their lives, and confined like beasts and animals in the shelterless plain beyond Kashmiri Gate to suffer the atrocious profigacy of the troops and the rigours of winds and storms and of starvation and pestilence. Meanwhile, a rapacious digging for treasures and vigorous search for plunder despoiled and demolished every hut and habitation, every house and palace and every tomb and mosque, "After this first collapse, the reaction of exhausted and overwrought men," describes Per-

cival Spear, "there followed a more systematic reign of terror, which lasted for several weeks. The whole population of Delhi was at first driven out. Mrs. Saunders wrote in the same letter of 25 October, 'every house in the city was desolate and many of them injured......... The inhabitants of this huge place seven miles round are dying daily of starvation and want of shelter".

The Muslims who were believed to be responsible for the anti-British uprising of 1857, were subjected to ruthless punishment and merciless vengeance. They were subjected to worst type of economic exploitation, large scale confiscation of their landed properties, closing on them the doors of employment and undermining their education by replacing Persian with English.

—*—

DIVIDE AND RULE POLICY

The British pursued their divide and rule policy with greater success in India. They caused a permanent cleavage between Hindus and Muslims in the sub-continent by their patronage of the Hindus at the cost of the more intelligent and more capable Muslims. The alien power always looked upon the Muslims as their adversaries because they had been ousted from power. This feeling was further intensified after the "rebellion" of 1857 and every effort was made to ruin and suppress the Muslims forever.

—*—

MUJAHIDEEN

The British atrocities following the War of Independence of 1857 had disillusioned the Indian Muslims, who were subjected to massacres and supression unheard of in a civilized Government. But, death and destruction inflicted by the alien rulers, could not break the spirit of the Muslim Nation. A number of patriots like Moulvi Abdullah, Maulvi Mohammad Ishaq and Mohammad Yaqoob of U.P. eluded the vigilance of British authorities, escaped to the West of Indus and joined hands with the followers of Syed Ahmed Brelavi - now living in obscurity in the frontier area-to rise against the alien power, Soon the vales of Swat and Malakand echoed with the cries of Jehad and Allaho Akbar. The settlements of Mujahideen at Mulka, Sittana and Bonair developed into strong fortresses, pulsating with life and activity aimed at the liberation of their motherland.

A number of Tribes also joined hands with the Mujahideen, which alarmed the British Government. A formidable army under Sir

Sidney Cotton was despatched which advanced rapidly towards Durgai, slaughtering defenceless villages and razing to the ground their habitations. But, soon the alien forces were taught a memorable lesson by the Mujahideen who, according to the author of Discovery of Pakistan, "spread themselves at once over the face of the country, barred all passes of retreat and besieged the British forces. The impetuousity of their charge and rapidity of their operations surprised and totally upset the grave and elaborate tactics of the enemy. After a slaughter of five thousand of his men, the trembling General, hopeless of relief, was reduced to await his fate in an exasperating inactivity of extreme despair. Retreat was impracticable and resistance was futile. The pride of the Imperial Government was humbled to sue for peace. An ignominious retreat was purchased and a regular payment of money under the name subsidy, stipulated as a condition of the temporary and precarious peace, proclaimed the insulting defeat of the mighty Empire."

But where British arms have failed, British diplomacy has always triumphed. The power

of the Mujahideen which could not be destroyed by the British arms was undermined by the British intrigues. The British gold sowed the seeds of fierce, discard and eventually weaned away the allegiance of tribes from the Mujahideen. A number of Tribal Chiefs who had hitherto supported the Mujahideen went over to the British side.

The movement received a serious setback and continued to languish for three years when, in 1862, they were again united in their resolve to drive out the alien power from their sacred soil. The Mujahideen, once again swooped down on British posts and cantonments and reached as far as Rawalpindi.

The British Government was alarmed at this unexpected development. A strong force under General Sir Neville Chamberlain was despatched to meet the threat. The Englishmen carried death and destruction as they advanced, but they were destined to meet the fate of their previous army under Sir Sidney Cotton. "This time, too, without resistance, the invaders entered into the hills. Fortune

betrayed them only thereafter. The invisible defenders suddenly swooped down and the great General had the mortification of seeing his troops fly before an inconsiderable number of the Mujahideen who pursued them to the edge of their fortified camp. Many of the troops were consumed with fatigue of the long operations and fear of the foe; more than ten thousand were killed by "the enemy action"; but more than that the furious attacks on his camp unnerved the wearied General. It was impossible to advance and still more dangerous to retreat. All round exposed to vexatious bullets, the "great" General was obliged to beg his safety and the "honour" of Imperialism in suing for a humiliating retreat."

As the British diplomacy ultimately triumphed against the Mujahideen, thus killing one of the most dangerous and powerful movements started against the alien power in India, The British Government heavily bribed the Tribesmen who supported the Mujahideen and won over several of them towards their own side. Not content with it, they inspired and financed a counter anti - Wahabi Brelavi

religiou smovement in U.P. which labelled the Mujahideen as 'Wahabis'. This caused a lot of dissention and discard among the Muslim masses. The flame of controversy consumed the vitals of the Muslim nation. The Mujahideen were deprived of the assistance in men and material they received from U.P. and Bihar. Thus, this extremely powerful movement against the alien power came to a tragic end. The Mujahideen continued their fight till 1873.

Thereafter started an unprecedented repression against the Mujahideen by the alien rulers. A number of centres were set up for trial and execution of Maulvis. Not only the Mujahideen but hardly any religious minded Muslim could escape the gallows or transportation for life.

Sir Syed Ahmad Khan who preached Muslim co-operation with the alien power was to a great extent responsible for cooling down the Muslim bitterness against the British and to a certain extent removing the British suspicion of the Muslims. But, later events have

proved beyond doubt, that the British who aimed at the division rather than in the unity of the Muslim world were not inclined to grant the Indian Muslims a substantial share in the socio-political and economic life of the sub-continent.

—※—

AFGHANI'S VISION

Jamaluddin Afghani, a great Muslim visionary and revolutionary who advocated the unity of the Muslim world was hated by the British and was hounded out by them wherever he went. In 1869, when he arrived in India, he was not allowed to meet the Muslim political leaders. The British smelled a danger in Afghani's popularity who preached the unity of the Muslim world. The British who aimed at weakening the Muslim world advised the Egyptian Government to expel Afghani from that country in March, 1879. He was interned in Calcutta by the British Indian Government in 1882.

Afghani's famous Arabic journal "Al Urwat-ul-Wuthqa". published from Paris, which exposed the British anti-Muslim designs created a furore in the imperialist circles and its entry was banned in India.

The British saw in the unity of the Muslim world, the greatest danger to their expansionist

policy and their politico-economic exploitation of the Muslim populated Middle and the Far East.

The British assistance to Turkey in the Turco-Russian war in Crimea was not motivated by any love for Turkey or Islam but was intended to check Russian influence spreading to Afghanistan and India. The British attitude towards Turkey in the Crimean war, and subsequently at the Berlin Congress on the conclusion of the Russo-Turkish war, when Cyprus was leased out to England, are too well known. Britain demanded a high price for its assistance to Turkey in the Crimean war and, consequently, the strategic and fertile island of Cyprus was handed over to Britain.

Equally well known are the facts of the British occupation of Egypt, its original purpose and the after-thoughts that assumed England's duty as the bailiff of Europe.

Britain successfully played its old game of playing one Muslim power against another. The opening of the Suez Canal had immensely enhanced the strategic importance of Egypt

which guarded the sea-route to India and the Far East, the vital points of British interest. Egypt, which for a long time formed a part of the great Ottoman (Turkish) Empire, was encouraged by Britain to revolt against the Central authority. A nationalist movement was started in Egypt under the British patronage and soon Egypt became a vassal of Britain. Khediv of Egypt was, in fact, controlled by the British Consul General stationed in Cairo.

—*—

EGYPT

Egypt was the first country in the Middle East to fall prey to the British machinations.

During the closing years of the 18th century, political as well economic condition of Egypt, a country forming part of the Ottoman Empire, was extremely deplorable. The corrupt Memluks had shattered the economy of the country and had brought its political situation to its lowest ebb. The French occupation of Egypt under the celebrated conqueror, Napoleon Bonaparte, was intended to reinstate the authority of the Ottomans and the suppression of the corrupt Memluks. Napoleon declared that he had greatest respect for the Prophet of Islam and the Holy Quran. He opened all posts in Egypt to all classes of people, preferring pious and talented persons.

The defeat of the French Fleet in the Battle of Nile at the hands of the British, led to wide-spread riots in Cairo on October 22, 1798,

in which the French Governor was killed. The Turks recovered Egypt from the French within a year.

The vacuum created by the departure of French from Egypt, provided a golden opportunity to the British to step in. The Englishmen are always on look out for taking advantage of the disturbed political situation in a country. In such circumstances their intrigues work well and they have not to "waste" their valour for gaining martial supremacy in that country.

In March, 1801, the British forces under Sir Ralph Abercromby landed at Aboukir, and were opposed by the remaining French forces in which the British General was killed. The British forces, however, occupied Alexandria on August 30, 1801, without much resistance. The Englishmen played their Divide and Rule policy with greater success in disturbed political situation in Egypt. They sided with the corrupt Memluks against the Turks who wanted to overthrow them. A showdown between the Memluk Beys and Turks

resulted in heavy casualties among the Memluks. The British General Hutchison addressed a strongly-worded letter to Turks and got the wounded Memluk Beys released.

But soon Egypt was headed by Mohammad Ali Pasha, as Governor, a strong man, who proved equal to the intriguing Britons. He compelled them to evacuate Alexandria in March, 1803. His assignment as the Governor of Egypt was confirmed by the Turks. Mohammad Ali Pasha, who was a virtual ruler, recognised the overlordship of the Ottomans and ruled over Egypt for 40 years with an iron hand.

But, Britain could not be easily dissuaded from their dangerous enterprise in Egypt. They had more misfortunes awaiting for them in that country, ruled by Mohammad Ali Pasha, the strong man of Egypt.

On March 17, 1807, the British Fleet landed 5,000 troops on the Egyptian mainland. Their chief hopes lay in the treacherous Memluks whom they had earlier supported against the Turks. They wanted to use

Memluks against Mohammad Ali Pasha. But there they learnt the death of the traitor Al-Alfi, on whose cooperation the British had pinned their chief hopes of success. Mohammad Ali Pasha, who proved too good for the intriguing Britons, paid them in their own coin. He contacted the Memluks, offered them better terms, if they helped him in driving out the British invaders from their sacred soil. To this they acceded. Meanwhile, a detachment of British force was ambuscaded in Rosetta and was compelled to retreat to Aboukir and Alexandria after heavy loss of men and material. The British General, Wanchope was killed. Another British General and 19 senior officers were severely wounded.

A second British attack on Rosetta failed miserably. A British reinforcement under General Stewart was compelled to retreat after suffering heavy casualties. A large number of prisoners were taken. Several hundreds of British heads were exposed on stakes in Cairo and the British prisoners were paraded through the streets of the metropolitan city amidst jeering multitudes.

The British were taught a befitting lesson by the strong man of Egypt. Whenever their machinations and intrigues failed, they found themselves in precarious condition even when confronted by a small country like Egypt or Sudan. Intrigue and not the sword has been the chief weapon in the British armoury.

The British force were driven out of Alexandria on September 14, 1807. Thereafter, Mohammad Ali Pasha, ruled over Egypt peacefully, ushering economic prosperity through industrial, agricultural and educational development in the country. He died on August 2, 1849 at a ripe age of 80.

The successors of Mohammad Ali Pasha were too weak to face the British intrigues. He was succeeded by his grandson, Abbas I, who after six years' rule gave way to his uncle Sayeed Pasha in 1854, a man having great liking for the Frenchmen. He granted to Frenchman Ferdinand de Lesseps, a concession for the construction of Suez Canal. This provided an opportunity to the British to conspire against Sayeed Pasha with the

Ottomans. The British Lord Palmerston, who was opposed to the project on account of their selfish motive got the rectification of the project delayed by two years by the Turkish Sultan. Sayeed Pasha, however, pleased the Britons by granting them two concessions—one opening of a British Bank in Egypt.

Sayeed Pasha who died in 1863, was succeeded by his nephew, Ismail Pasha, as Khediv of Egypt. He modernised Egypt by levying heavy taxes. His financial implications brought about British financial control of the country, a measure which had been extremely harmful from the national point of view, and which made Britons the virtual rulers of Egypt. The British Government is always on look out for such golden opportunities for economic and political exploitation of countries. In May, 1876, the result of the recommendations of Financial Mission, led to the international control of major portion of the Egyptian Revenue, through dual French and British control of Suez Canal, internationalisation of the Egyptian Railway and the port of Alexandria. Another Commission of Enquiry dominated

by the British extended their control over the enormous landed property of the Khediv, who was driven to desperation. But, the poor Khediv Ismail, had to accept in September, 1878, the dual control of the British and French over Egypt. He had to appoint Mr. Wilson, a Briton, as the Finance Minister of Egypt. The poor Khediv, found himself quite helpless in the face of British machinations and pressure.

This dual control over Egypt hardly worked for seven months, when riots broke out in Cairo, which led to the overthrow of the British and French control.

But Britain, was not to be dissuaded from such momentary show of mob fury. They increased their fifth column activities and within two years, re-established their dual control over Egypt.

The British, had, however, miscalculated the popular resentment against the dual control. Ahmed Arabi Pasha, a great orator and national leader, infused a new life among the Egyptians and was instrumental in obtaining

many concessions from the dual Foreign Controllers. An unprecedented rising against the Dual Controllers, brought forth the British and French fleets to Alexandria in May, 1882. The British policy of "Divide and Rule" was applied with considerable success thereby playing Arabs against the Egyptians. The riots led to heavy massacre. The British Admiral mercilessly bombarded the Egyptian ports on July 11, 1882. The leaders of the National Movement prepared themselves to resist the British aggression by force.

At last, the British Government, determined to establish its supremacy over Egypt by force, invited the French and later the Italians to join hands in their crusade against the National Movement in Egypt. But both refused to oblige the Britons in this respect.. Britain, therefore, alone landed troops at Ismailia under Sir Garnet Wolsely, and in the battle of Tel-el-Kabir, on September 13, 1882, in which British intrigues rather than British arms played a decisive part, Ahmad Arabi Pasha was defeated. He was tried for treason and was banished from that country for ever.

The British, who were now in virtual control of Egypt, dictated terms. Sir Evelyn Barring who became British Consul General in Egypt in 1884 issued orders to Khediv of Egypt. During three years, which followed, the Britons placed three persons, one after another, on the throne of Egypt.

The Khediv of Egypt was now a puppet in British hands. But the most serious threat to the British domination over the Nile Valley, was offered by Mahdi of Sudan, who inflicted defeat after defeat on the combined British and Egyptian forces during 1881 to 1885.

The morale of the Egyptian people, however, remained unsubdued. They produced such great National leaders as Arabi Pasha, Mustafa Kamil Pasha and Saad Zoghlol Pasha who waged a relentless agitation against the British domination over Egypt.

On the conclusion of the Great War II, hatred of Egyptian people against their British overlords reached its highest pitch. They were joined in their demand for the abrogation of Anglo-Egyptian agreement, by the Wafadist

and Muslim Brotherhood parties. Serious riots broke out on February 15, 1946, throughout Egypt against the British domination over their country. The Prime Minister, Nokrashy Pasha had to resign and was succeeded by Ismail Sidki Pasha, who supported the popular demand of British evacuation of Egypt. An ultimatum to the British forces to evacuate Egypt was, therefore, given. This led to several skirmishes between the British and Egyptian forces. At last, the British Prime Minister, Clement Atlee, had to accept the Egyptian demand of the evacuation of British forces from Egypt. The British Parliament accepted this demand on May 7, 1946.

The British forces were driven out of their last point of vantage on the Egyptian soil, when in 1956, President Jamal Abdul Nasser assumed the control of the Suez Canal.

—*—

RISE OF MAHDI SUDANI

In 1881, the peace of Sudan, a territory ruled over by Egypt, was broken when the great Muslim missionary, Mahdi of Sudan raised his standard of revolt against the alien occupation of his motherland. In 1883 an Egyptian force of 10,000 men despatched under William Hicks was annihilated by the rebels and Sir Evelyn Baring, the British Consul General in Cairo started the evacuation of British people from Sudan. General Gordon, who was entrusted with the task of defending Sudan against Mahdi arrived in Khartoum in January, 1884. He appealed for peace with Mahdi which was refused by the latter, who knew the British tactics of bowing down before the strong. Gordon did not dare to face Mahdi in the open and shut himself up in the city from March 18, 1884 to January 26, 1885, when Mahdi's men stormed the city and killed Gordon.

The spectacular success of Mahdi, who strived at attaining the past glory of Islam by uniting the Muslim world and purging Islam of

the evil influences which had crept into it, caused a violent commotion in Britain. Lord Kitchner, the ablest British General was despatched to Egypt to meet this rising force from Sudan which was considered a formidable threat to the British strategy in the Middle East.

Kitchner became the Sardar (Chief) of the Egyptian army. He reorganised and trained the Khediv's forces for three years. The Egyptian army trained and commanded by the British Officers under the supreme command of Kitchner advanced against the forces of Sudan. Mahdi had already died. In an encounter with the Sudanese forces in which the British espionage and conspiracies were in full play, the Sudanese Leader was killed in the battle of Omdurman on September 2, 1898. The Muslims of the Sudan were subjected to worst carnage and barbarities by the British conquerors. The "cultured" Britons dug out the bones of Mahdi from his grave and put them to fire. Kitchner fixed a small bone of Mahdi into his ring. Kitchner was created as Baron Kitchner of Khartoum.

—*—

HINDUS PATRONAGE

In India, the Hindus had greatly benefited from the British patronage which was granted to them at the cost of Muslims. The Hindu mind which is never at rest and is always scheming had started the Indian National Congress with a view to obtain for themselves a share in the administration of British India. The British administrators had been watching this new development among the Hindus and contrived to strike a balance of power between the two principal communities inhabiting the sub-continent, by effecting the partition of Bengal. Lord Curzon, the Viceroy of India, partitioned Bengal in 1905. The Hindus of Bengal who used to dominate over the Muslim majority of the Province and treated them like serfs, highly resented this division of their spoils. They launched a terrorist movement in Bengal and, ultimately, the British Government was obliged to cancel the partition of Bengal in 1911.

EMBITTERED INDIAN MUSLIMS

This unjustified yielding to the Hindu pressure immencely embittered the Indian Muslim faith in the British Justice. The police firing on the Muslims in Machhli Bazar Mosque, Kanpur, and the British role in the Balkans and Tripoli against the Turkish Caliphate further alienated the Indian Muslims from Britain. A wave of resentment swept through the Muslim India and these and other events led to a great awakening among them. The Muslims who were thoroughly disillusioned now entertained a feeling of distrust for the British pledges and promises.

The British unleashed a reign of terror in Southren district of Talingana, on Malabar coast mainly inhabited by Muslim Moplas. But all sorts of repression failed to break the spirit of brave Mopals and steeled them in their determination to face the Anglo-Hindu intrigiues against their existence.

KHILAFAT MOVEMENT

The commencement of the Great World War I, in 1914 had brought a new sentimental problem for Muslims in India. Turkey, the custodian of Islamic Caliphate, had sided with Germany against the Allies. The Allied forces had planned to capture the Gallipoli peninsula, the most strategic point in Turkey. The British attack on the peninsula was repulsed by the young Mustafa Kemal, who won one of the most glorious victories of the Great War. At last, after a fruitless campaign lasting for months, the British were forced to withdraw losing thousands of men and equipment. Late in August, 1915, the furious charge by Kemal at Suvla won back the position of Chunuk Bay, pinned the British to the beach and eventually forced them to abandon the Gallipoli Expedition as an utter failure. Mustafa Kemal who had won the most glorious victory of the Great War, was hailed as the Saviour of Turkey.

PLAYING ARABS AGAINST TURKS

The British who are past masters in the art of intrigues, especially in pursuit of their Divide and Rule policy, had been sowing the seeds of discontent and dissension among the Arabs against the Turks. Arabia was a part of the Turkish Empire and the Arab nationalist movement which had been taking shape for sometime was exploited by the British to fan a rebellion against the Khilafat at Istanbul. The main part was played therein by the notorious Col. Lawrence, the evil genius of the British nation, who used to dress like an Arab, and had prepared the Arabs to revolt against their Muslim brethren of Turkey. The British had brought large Indian forces to fight against the Turks in Iraq and Palestine. The British espionage and intrigues worked well in the Arabian peninsula and the Turks had to abandon their Arab possessions.

The British role in Arabia and their use of Indian Muslim soldiers against their own Muslim brethren the Turks, sent a wave of

resentment throughout Muslim India. Maulana Mohammad Ali Johar who had earlier written a memorable leader, "Choice of the Turks", in his well known English Journal "Comrade", was prosecuted along with other freedom fighters at Karachi for preaching sedition among the Indian Muslim soldiers.

The Great World War came to a close in 1918 when Germany lost the war and the Allies won. The British forces were now in full control of the Turkish capital, Constantinople, with senile Wahiduddin, as their puppet Sultan of Turkey.

The British Government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Lloyd George, a sworn enemy of the Turks and Islam, had planned to finish Turkey by the Treaty of Severes signed in 1920. The terms of the Treaty when announced in the Press caused a deep resentment among the Muslims throughout the world, especially in India. Lloyd George was bitterly criticised for his anti-Turkish and anti-Muslim policy. A deputation of eminent Indian Muslim leaders was sent to London to

inform the British Government of the resentment prevailing among Indian Muslims against Lloyd George's anti-Turkish policy.

The Deputionists met several British leaders and tried to apprise the British public opinion of the dangers of anti-Turkish Policy of their Government and the reprecussion it was bound to have in India and other Muslim countries. But the British authorities were not prepared to listen to reason and the deputionists came back to India, greatly disappointed.

KEMAL THE SAVIOUR

The Treaty of Severes was a threat to the very existence of Turkey. The brave Turks under the able guidance of Ghazi Mustafa Kemal Pasha assisted by Ghazi Ismat Anonu decided to take up this challenge. They organised a nationalist army against the Allies and their puppet Sultan, in Asiatic Turkey. The puppet Sultan under the orders of his British masters labelled Mustafa Kemal Pasha an infidel, fit to be hanged. The British also instigated and assisted Greece, an old enemy of the Turks, to attack the Asiatic Turkey and crush the Turkish power for ever.

The well-organised and well-armed Greek forces landed in Asiatic Turkey and occupied Smyrna (Izmir). Backed by the moral and material support of the Allies, the Greeks had assembled a large invading force, equipped with the most modern weapons of war by Britain. The Greek Prime Minister had consented to smash the Kemalists in Asiatic Turkey, who were irregular troops with no artillery.

The Greek army advanced towards Eski Shahar and took Afian in July 1921...Kemal decided to fall back 200 miles to the last natural line of defence before Angora (Ankara), the Sakaria river. And here on August 26, began one of the bloodiest and decisive battles of modern history. "Centuries of hatred between Greek and Turk, Christian and infidel, flared into the white-hot fury of the fourteen days' indescribable carnage." The Greeks were at last routed with fearful losses. The Turks with their shattered strength and irregular troops had performed a military feat which will go down as a miracle in the history of warfare. Nations all over the world swelled the chorus of praise fcr Mustafa Kemal and his brave men on his memorable victory.

The Greeks were driven out of Asiatic Turkey and the British occupation forces were warned to leave Constantinople immediately, which they did meekly. The puppet Turkish Sultan, Wahiduddin, escaped on a British warship. In the Treaty of Laussane signed in 1923, the British Government had to accept unwillingly the conditions dictated by the

victorious Turkey.

The Great War had left the British supreme in the Middle East. It was in virtual control of the Arabian peninsula, Egypt, Suez Canal, Iraq, Persian Gulf and Iran. In Arabian peninsula, the British played the game of the proverbial monkey who had offered to settle a dispute between two cats over a piece of bread, eventually devoured the entire piece himself. It installed its puppet Sherif of Mecca as the King of Hejaz and his sons as puppet rulers of Iraq and Jordan. Britain had complete control over the rich oil fields in Iraq, Iran and Persian Gulf islands, and had resorted to worst economic exploitation of these areas, spending nothing on the poor Muslims inhabiting these regions.

—*—

PALESTINE

The Arabs had to pay heavy price for their treachery towards their Turkish brethren. They were misguided by the British spy, Lawrence of Arabia, to revolt against the Turks and to set up their own Arab State. But their hopes were belied by the British plan to establish a Jewish state in the heart of Arab lands. British treachery towards Muslims was no where so much exposed, in all its nakedness, as in Palestine.

According to Balfour Declaration of 1917, 'Great' Britain proposed to set up a Jewish state in the predominantly Arab (Muslim) populated areas of Palestine. Later, the division of Palestine into Arab and Jewish states, obliged more than one and half million Arabs living in the latter area to leave their homes and become refugees. The Jews drove out these Arabs from their territory. The United Nations has, no doubt, shed crocodile tears on the plight of displaced Arabs, but it could not put forth any effective solution of the problem.

At last, it observed a mysterious silence over the high-handedness of the Jews, who had been responsible for displacing one and a half millions. Arabs from their homes for the last 20 years.

The Arabs who, hitherto, considered the Britons as their friends were disillusioned by the British betrayal in Palestine. The League of Nations, too, accepted on September 29, 1923, the British scheme for setting up a Jewish state in Palestine. The League of Nations gave Britain a mandate to administer Palestine till the establishment of Jewish State.

A wave of resentment swept through the Arab world against Britain. A severe revolt against the British administration in Palestine was brutally suppressed by the British authorities. But, despite all sorts of repressive measures adopted by the British in Palestine, the fire of rebellion continued spreading and engulfed the entire country. The British were alarmed at the extent of Arab violence which had erupted against them. The Arabs resorted to guerilla warfare and inflicted crushing

blows on the British occupation forces.

In Palestine, the Arabs had to face two enemies—Britons and the Jews. The Jews were immigrating into Palestine and were driving out the Arabs from their homes under the British bayonets. The Arabs accepted this two-fold challenge and for the last 20 years have been waging a relentless war against the Jews in Palestine.

The British Government adopted all sorts of tactics to control the situation. They employed brutal repressive measures unheard of in a civilised nation. A large number of Arab patriots were put behind the bars and were subjected to extreme form of brutalities

The Arab patriots, too, came out in the open. They attacked British ports, cantonments and aerodromes and inflicted heavy blows on the British colonists. A number of British Military convoys were ambushed. The British Governor, responsible for the brutal repression was killed. The pipe-line of the Anglo-Iraqi Petroleum Company which passed through the region was blown up.

The fire of Revolution raged fiercely during 1937-39 in Palestine. The patriots had occupied most of the country and the British administration was confined to a few cities only. The British Government had evacuated their nationals from Palestine. The highly trained British armies fully equipped with all sorts of modern weapons were no match for the zealous Arab warriors, who descended from their mountain hide-outs and swooped down upon the British forces like hawks on the pigeons.

The world opinion was alarmed at the success of Arab patriots against the formidable British colonists in Palestine. The British Minister for Colonies, too, had to admit their debacle at the hands of Arabs in Palestine.

The 'Great' Britain, at last decided to employ all her tactics—intrigue and fraud, temptation and repression—to extinguish the fire of revolution raging in Palestine.

The British Government despatched four divisions of their crack army to quell the

rebellion in a small country like Palestine. This was later reinforced by another 20 thousand soldiers.

This mighty British force, equipped with all sorts of modern weapons ravaged the small country of Palestine, razing to the ground villages and cities, after mercilessly massacring their innocent residents. Neither age, nor sex could win any sympathy from the 'brave' Britons. More than sixty thousand Arabs were massacred by the British forces. About 150 Arab patriots were tried in British courts and were hanged. Some of these were more than 75 years' old and had been observing fast.

But these brutal repressions failed to suppress the brave Arab patriots, and only steeled their determination to resist foreign aggression in their homeland. The British Government, thereafter, decided to use other secret weapons from their armoury. These novel tactics could hardly be conceived by a civilized nation. Jerusalem, being the sacred city of Muslims, Christians and Jews, Palestine is inhabited by the followers of all these three

religions. The Muslims form majority of the population in this country. The British, well known for their Divide and Rule policy, thought out a plan to start a civil war between the Christians and Muslims. They released Muslim criminals from the prisons on condition that they would invade and loot the Christian colonies.

The Muslim criminals released from the prisons fell upon the Christian colonies and started loot and plunder. This embittered relations between the two major communities inhabiting Palestine.

A British spy apprised the Grand Mufti of Palestine of this devilish British plan to strain relations between Muslims and Christians. The Muslim patriots, when informed of the plan, decided to combat it with all the force at their command. They launched a severe attack on these marauding criminals and in several combats, resulting in heavy casualties on both sides, the criminals were smashed.

The British Government realising their

failure in supressing the Arab patriots, thought out new tactics to obtain their object. They published a White Paper on May 17, 1939, under which a Jewish state was to be established in a part of Palestine within 10 years. The Arabs made a vehement protest against this White Paper and the Arab Higher Committee severely criticised it in their statement.

The British forces again launched severe attack on the hide-outs of the Arab patriots. Several of them were captured and shot, Meanwhile, the Jews were allowed to enter Palestine and settle down in Arab homes under British bayonets.

Realising the fact that the Arab patriots cannot be subdued by force, the British Government adopted their familiar tactics to gain their object. Fifth column activities were intensified and British gold was freely used to purchase the loyalties of Arab Quislings. Attempts were made to assassinate the Grand Mufti of Palestine.

At last, when the British forces evacuated

Palestine on May 14, 1948, the Jews set up their state, Israel. This was immediately recognised by the United Nations.

The establishment of Israel with the help of the British Government is perhaps the worst example of political high-handedness in modern history when the State of one community was forcibly planted on a land populated by another community. Israel has been and will continue to be a threat not only to the Arabs but even to the world peace. It is a living monument to the anti-Muslim policy of "Great" Britain.

—*—

IRAN

Despite their control over the great Indian sub-continent and some of the more fertile regions as well most strategic points in the world, the British lust for wealth and power was growing day by day. Their longing eyes were now falling on the oil-rich Middle East, especially on Iran which, in the early years of this century, had been one of the principal oil producing countries in the world.

But, Iran, being a neighbour of Russia, naturally came under their influence. The Russians, however, having been subdued by their defeat at the hands of Japan in 1905 and alarmed at the growing German power concluded the Anglo-Russian agreement in 1907, to settle rivalry between Russia and Britain over interests in Asia, particularly in Iran. The agreement was intended to guard British interests in India and to settle all mutual (Anglo-Russian) differences regarding Afghanistan and Iran.

The British Government, as usual, suspicious of the Russian intentions, negotiated a treaty with Wasiqud - Daula's Iranian Cabinet on August 19, 1919, using strong and unconventional pressure. The success of the Allies in the First Great War had arrogated the British authorities. A sum of £750,000 was bribed to three members of the Iranian Cabinet to cover certain "undesignated expences." The Treaty, though categorically recognised the independence of Persia, its subsequent provisions were inconsistent with this declaration and reduced Iran to the status of a British Protectorate. These provisions provided for British Advisers-military and civil-to the Iranian Government undertaking the improvement of communications though British co-operation, construction of Iranian rail road by a British firm and the revision of customs tariff in the interest of Britain.

Pressure was applied to the Majlis (Iranian Parliament) by Britain to cancel the Anglo-Russian Agreement of 1907 which was ultimately changed to the British satisfaction and consequently all concessions to Russia in Iran

were withdrawn.

The growing British influence in Iran and the deteriorating economic condition of that country, obliged Raza Khan Pahlavi, Commander of the Cossack Brigade to march on Tehran and ascend the throne of Iran on February 12, 1921. Alarmed at the growing British economic exploitation and increasing British intrigues in Iran, Raza Shah Pahlavi denounced the Anglo-Iranian Treaty of 1919 and signed a Treaty with Russia.

Iran now started a new political life under Raza Shah Pahlavi, the strong man of Persia. Following the example of Afghanistan and Turkey, Raza Shah cancelled all Treaties with foreign powers. After prolonged negotiations lasting for several months, an agreement was reached in 1928, granting bases on the Iranian territory for the Imperial Airways Service in India. The Anglo-Iranian oil company's D'arcy concessions of 1901, cancelled in 1932, were replaced by a new agreement in 1933 after British reference to the League of Nations. The British coaling stations at Basidu and Hanjam

were the breeding ground of British intrigues and conspiracies against Iran. These were removed to Bahrain in 1935.

The strong man of Iran, Raza Shah Pahlavi, introduced many beneficial reforms which contributed to the economic and educational well-being of the country.

The Second Great War brought new problems for Iran. After the Allies occupation of Syria and Iraq (during the Great War II,) German influence moved to Iran. This provided a pretext to the British Government to occupy Iran in 1942. They were looking for an opportunity to dethrone Raza Shah, the strong man of Iran. He was deported out of his country and died in exile. His son was proclaimed as the new ruler of Iran.

In 1948, the Iranian Government opened negotiations with the Anglo-Iranian oil company for revising the earlier agreement and proposed for a supplementary agreement ensuring increased Royalty and greater financial benefit to Iran.

"It is undeniable", writes Mr. Donald Robinson in his, "The 100 Most Important People", "that the 1,80,00,000 poverty ridden, diseased, illiterate Iranians have suffered at the hands of the foreigners. Their ancient country contains the richest single oil field in existence. It was producing 700,000 barrels a day in 1950, ten per cent of the entire world output. But they have received very little from their oil. In 1901, Iran got exactly 20,000 dollars from the British for a sixty-year monopoly on the development of its petroleum resources. When a new contract was made in 1933 with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company (53 per cent of which is owned by the British Government), it provided only a pittance in royalties to Iran, just four shillings a ton. Not until 1949 did the British offer the Iranians a fair contract, providing for a fifty per cent of the annual profit—Is it any wonder that Iranian resentment grew to fever pitch and that anti-foreign hotheads took power in the Government?"

The British loot of Iranian wealth and their economic exploitation continued for over half a century, when they were challenged by a

visionary, Dr. Mossadegh. A revolutionary by nature, Dr. Mossadegh, stirred up a storm in Iran in 1919 by denouncing a treaty with Great Britain, "which had made Iran virtually a protectorate". For this he was exiled at the instance of the British overlords of Iran.

Mossadegh had a chequered career. As the Governor of Fars, as Iran's Finance Minister in 1921, as the Member of the Iranian Parliament in 1925, he zealously worked for the uplift of the Iranian masses, for the removal of economic disparities among his people and, of course, for driving out the foreign exploiters from his beloved motherland. He had to undergo great trials and hardships in realising his goal.

After the exile of Raza Shah by the Allies in 1944, Dr. Mossadegh re-entered Iranian Parliament and instantly started blasting foreigners. He got a law passed prohibiting the Government from giving anyone any oil concessions without Iranian Parliament's approval. "He concentrated his fire on the British, demanding an immediate end to their

exploitation of his country. He called for the revocation of the Anglo-American company's oil rights and the nationalisation of its huge oil refinery at Abadan, the largest in the world".

Mr. Mossadegh became the idol of the masses. He was hailed as the saviour of Iran. He organised the "National Front Party" and gained control of the Iranian Parliament. "With this control," observes Donald Robinson, "he forced a rejection of Britain's 1949 offer of 50 per cent of its oil profits and pushed his country relentlessly on a showdown with the Union Jack."

In March, 1951, the Iranian Parliament voted for the nationalisation of oil industry programme. On April 29, 1951, he was made his country's Prime Minister. Despite the fact that Iran did not possess the technical skill to operate the Abadan Oil Refinery, he expelled all the Anglo–Iranian Company's experts and let the Refinery stand idle for a considerable time. The loss of oil revenues and the economic plight of Iran did not

detract him from following a revolutionary step towards ending the British exploitation of his motherland. He even severed diplomatic relations with "Great" Britain in 1952.

The extremist policy of Dr. Mossadegh at last bore fruit and Iran began to receive a far better return on her oil resources.

—*—

IRAQ

Iraq, the cradle of Muslim civilization during the Abbasides, formed a part of the great Ottoman (Turkish) Caliphate during the 19th and part of the 20th century. The First Great War provided an opportunity to the British to preach nationalism among the Iraqis and to instigate them to revolt against their Muslim brothers, Turks. The Britons, expert in the art of diplomacy and intrigue, successfully employed their Divide and Rule policy in Iraq. Following the declaration of war between Turkey and Britain on November 6, 1914, an Anglo-Indian expeditionary force landed and captured the southern part of Iraq. The British fifth column headed by the notorious Colonel Lawrence, actually a Jew, worked well in Arabia, including Iraq, in alienating the Arabs against the Turks. This considerably facilitated the rapid penetration of Anglo-Indian forces into Iraq, which occupied Basra on November 22, 1914, ensuring the safety of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Refinery at Abadan. Baghdad

was captured without much resistance on March 11, 1917, and the entire Iraq was occupied by November 1918.

The British Government installed their puppet, Sharif Husain as the King of Hijaz and his two sons, Abdulla and Faisal as the rulers of Jordan and Iraq. These were puppets in the hands of the British Government which, instead of granting real freedom to the Arabs, as promised by the Lawrence of Arabia, kept a virtual control over these regions, subjecting these rich oil-producing areas to the worst type of exploitation and even stabbing the Arabs in the back by establishing a Jewish state, Israel, in the heart of Arab lands.

The nationalist movement in Iraq understood the dual policy of the British Government to keep their overlordship over Iraq and other oil-producing Arab countries. The publication of the news on May 3, 1920, that the "Great" Britain had accepted the League of Nation's Mandate to administer Iraq, flared up serious anti-British riots in Baghdad. The nationalists cited it as an example of the breach of promise

by the British Nation. They observed that Britain could not be trusted to keep their promises for granting complete independence to Iraq and other Arab countries. The announcement in Baghdad on June 20, 1920, of an Arab Government for Iraq with British Advisors led to the outbreak of a native revolt at Rumailla on June 30. This was a signal for general rising and rebellion spread throughout Iraq upto Mosul. A reinforcement of 4,883 British and 24,508 Indian soldiers supported by heavy artillery and an air squadron was rushed to quell the rebellion. The Iraqis were subjected to severe bombardment, causing heavy casualties among the civil population. The Iraqis soon realised their fault of allying with an alien power like the British, against their Muslim brothers, Turks.

The Iraqis too retaliated. For them it was a national war of independence against an untrustworthy foreign power. Those Iraqis who were killed in action became martyrs and heroes. The British had, therefore, a tough time in Iraq, and had to suffer heavy casualties at the hands of Iraqi nationalists.

The British High Commissioner, Sir Percy Cox, on realising the danger, hastily announced the formation of a provisional Arab Government for Iraq, with religious dignitary, Abdur Rahman Al-Jilani as Head of the Council of State. Iraq was pacified for the time being. The council resolved to make Faisal as king of Iraq, who was elevated to the Throne on August 23. 1921, with Abdur Rahman Al-Jilani as his Prime Minister.

The announcement in the League of Nations on November 17, 1921, by H.A.L. Fisher, that the League of Nations Mandate to British to administer Iraq would continue triggered fresh anti-British agitation and violence throughout Iraq. The British High Commissioner, Sir Percy Cox, assumed administration of the country in his own hands. A reign of terror was enforced by the British authorities in Iraq. The nationalist movement was momentarily suppressed by an iron hand through the British bullets. A large number of so called "rebels" (Nationalist) were executed or deported to Hanjam.

An Anglo-Iraqi Treaty signed on April 1, 1930, permitted Britain to use all facilities—rail, road, telegraph, ports, aerodromes etc—available in Iraq. Air bases in Iraq were leased to Britain and British troops movement was permitted throughout Iraq. The Treaty announced by the Iraqi Representative in the League of Nations was to last for 25 years. The treaty also permitted the continuance of the services of British Advisors in Iraq.

In September, 1933, on the death of King Faisal of Iraq, his son Ghazi I, succeeded him. A popular ruler, his 5½ years' reign witnessed completion of many irrigational and developmental programmes, despite the disturbed political conditions prevailing in Iraq, resulting in the assassination of Prime Minister, Hikmat Sulaiman and the overthrow of Prime Minister, Jamil Al-Midfai, through an army coup engineered by the British stooge, Noori al-Said, who became the Prime Minister of Iraq.

The British intrigues and machinations were in full play in Iraq at this time. But the

Britons had a tough time in this country. Their diplomacy and conspiracies failed to suppress the nationalist movement there. They were instrumental in getting their stooge, Noori al-Said installed as Prime Minister of Iraq for about half a dozen times during 1938 and 1958, when he was assassinated along with Regent Abdullah and young King Faisal II.

King Ghazi of Iraq was succeeded in 1939 by his four-year old minor son, as King Faisal II, with his uncle Abdullah as his Regent.

The declaration of the Second World War was followed by anti-British disturbances throughout Iraq. The pent-up national feelings suddenly erupted against the British authorities. Political situation deteriorated rapidly during 1940-41.

The Iraqis, who were alarmed at the British policy in Palestine, and had seen the British diplomacy and its anti-Muslim policy in all their nakedness, wanted to getrid off the British domination over Iraq. The Grand

Mufti of Palestine, Syed Aminul Husaini who had taken refuge in Iraq was deadly against the British who had planned a Jewish state in Palestine, the heart of Arab lands. The Iraqi army dominated by the four Colonels called the Golden Square were fiercely opposed to the British policies and their domination over Iraq. The Regent, Abdullah, dismissed Noori al-Said and appointed Rashid Ali as Prime Minister of Iraq on April 7, 1940. The new Prime Minister refused to allow transportation of British troops through Iraq to meet the advancing Germans in the Near East. The Iraqi Minister was prepared for a showdown with British troops. On April 30, Iraqi troops supported by artillery surrounded the British Air Base at Habbaniya. The British Air forces started heavy bombardment of Iraqi positions. The Iraqi siege had to be raised on May 7. The British forces occupied Rutba on May 9 and Baghdad on June 1. Rashid Ali and his associates had to leave Iraq. The British puppet, Noori al-Said, was again installed as Prime Minister of Iraq and remained as such till June, 1944. Political disturbances

against the Britons again brought about the fall of Noori al-Said, but the Englishmen again manoeuvred to get him installed as Prime Minister in 1946. The ban on political parties was lifted and general elections were held in Iraq in February, 1947.

Salit Jabr was elected as the new Prime Minister of Iraq. He signed a treaty with the British Government at Portsmouth, in February, 1948, which permitted Great Britain to use Iraqi Air bases at Shuaiba and Habbaniya for the next 20 years. But Iraqi public opinion was deadly against this Treaty. Iraqis denounced it and the new Prime Minister had to tender his resignation. A care-taker Iraqi Government dispatched Iraqi troops to join Arab League intervention in Palestine. The British Government again manoeuvred to instal their stooge Noori al-Said as Prime Minister of Iraq in 1949, who at the instructions of his British masters, instantly withdrew Iraqi forces from Palestine.

In August, 1951, Noori al-Said concluded an agreement with the Iraqi Petroleum company

which was in favour of his British masters.

The British machinations and intrigues had sapped the political stability of Iraq and had deprived her people of the peace and prosperity reigning there during the Turkish Regime. The Iraqis had realised their mistake of listening to the British sermons of nationalism and freedom during the First Great War.

There had been frequent change of Governments in Iraq during 1951-54. In 1954 Noori al-Said again came to power. The Allies set up permanent council at Baghdad in November, 1955 under the Baghdad Pact.

But the British diplomacy could not save the unpopular Ruling Clique in Iraq from the doom which awaited for them. An army revolt broke out in Iraq in July, 1958 in which Prime Minister, Noori al-Said, Regent Abdullah and King Faisal II were killed.

ENEMY OF MUSLIM WORLD

The establishment of Israel under the British plan, opened the eyes of the Arabs and made them one of the bitterest opponents of Britain. This and subsequent British policies in Indo-Pakistan sub-continent, and later in Kashmir, Nigeria and Malaya exposed the British in their true colours—the bitterest enemy of the Muslim World.

In India, where the Hindus and Muslims had exhibited a memorable unity under the able guidance of Ali Brothers, the British smelled a danger to their rule and pursued their "divide and rule" policy with greater vigour. The Hindu-Muslim unity was shattered by the Shuddhi and Sanghatan movements inspired and abetted by the British Indian Government.

During the early twenties, Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, a prominent Hindu Leader, who was behind the bars was suddenly released following a secret meeting with the

British Viceroy. He started preaching anti-Muslim ideas which embittered Hindu-Muslim feelings. At the same time, Swami Shardha-Nand had, at the inspiration of the British Viceroy, started the Shuddhi Sanghatan movement, which undermined the ideal Hindu Muslim unity prevailing in the country and led to wide-spread communal riots throughout India.

The period between the two World Wars was marked with wide spread Hindu-Muslim communal riots in India, a direct result of the British "divide and rule" policy and the narrow Hindu Congress outlook towards Muslims, inspired and encouraged by the alien rulers.

Taking advantage of the early Allied defeats in their war against Japan, the Hindu Congress launched a "Quit India" movement in 1942 against the British Indian Government which was followed by widespread sabotage and much bloodshed.

—*—

PARTITION OF INDIA

On the conclusion of the Second World War, the British Government was compelled to grant independence to the Indian sub-continent. The Muslim League, disillusioned by the narrow nationalism of the Hindu Congress, had demanded a separate home-land for the Indian Muslims.

The last British Viceroy of India, Lord Mountbatten, a close friend of Mr. Nehru, and a bitter enemy of Muslims conspired with the Hindu leaders to grant power to the two principal communities of India in a way which was much harmful to the Muslims. The partition plan was drawn up by Mr. V. P. Menon, a Congress-minded Hindu Advisor of the Viceroy in collaboration with Nehru and perhaps with Krishna Menon. It was not considered necessary to take the Muslim League leader, Mr. Jinnah, into confidence. He was completely ignored.

The new plan was pushed through at break-neck speed and it was accepted and announced by the British Government on June 3, 1947. The British Viceroy, Lord Mountbatten, aspired and even worked for being accepted as a joint Governor-General of the two States – India and Pakistan. This, however, was not accepted by Mr. Jinnah who feared that the success he achieved would be sabotaged by the unfair and unscrupulous Viceroy if he also became the Governor-General of Pakistan.

Lord Mountbatten continued to play his dirty anti-Muslim role as the Governor-General of India. Still more, he advised and even compelled a number of Princely States in India to join the Indian Dominion much against their wishes and quite in contravention to the terms of the Partition Plan in which the Princely States were given option to accede to any of the two independent Dominions or remain independent. Thus encouraged, the Indian States Minister, Sardar Patel, coerced several other Indian States to accede to India. All past promises and pledges to the Princes

given by Britain were thrown to the winds by this diabolical Briton, Lord Mountbatten. This policy of the British Indian Governor-General proved extremely harmful to the Muslim Indian States of Hyderabad, Bhopal, Manavadar, Mangrol and Junagadh and to the Muslim majority State of Kashmir. The Indian Government headed by Lord Mountbatten forcibly occupied the Muslim States of Junagadh, Manavadar and Mangrol despite their accession to Pakistan and obtained by force and fraud the accession of the Muslim-populated State of Kashmir to India.

CONSPIRACY IN KASHMIR

Mr. Radcliffe, another Briton, who headed the Boundary Demarcation Commission played his unique anti-Muslim role. He was influenced by Lord Mountbatten and cajoled by the Hindu partisans and politicians to hand over several Muslim majority areas, especially the Muslim majority district of Gurdaspur to India against all canons of justice and fairplay. The inclusion of Gurdaspur in India gave that country an access to the Muslim majority State of Kashmir which still remains the main bone of contention between India and Pakistan. All promises given by the British Governor-General of India, Lord Mountbatten, at the time of accession of Kashmir to India, to hold a free and fair plebiscite in order to decide the final accession of the State, have been thrown to winds by the later British Governments. In this way, Britain had created another Palestine in the form of Kashmir where the Muslim majority of ninety per cent is being ruthlessly persecuted with a view to annihilate them.

Kashmir, even after 24 years of the creation of Pakistan remains to be the most thorny

question in the Indo-Pakistan politics. The inhabitants of this State, mostly Muslims, are groaning under the heels of Indian 'Lords', the followers of Mr. Gandhi, the much advertised apostle of non-violence. The promises given to Kashmiris at the time of accession of the State to India to hold a plebiscite for determining their opinion by the then Indian Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaher Lal Nehru and his intimate friend, Lord Mountbatten, who had been the Governor General of India and still alive, have been forgotten. The so—called 'liberal' British Govt. and the "great" British Lord, Mountbatten, who was a party to this dirty deal of conditional accession of Kashmir to India have all along maintained a mysterious silence. Their guilty conscience has never pricked over the miseries of fifty million Kashmiris who had been the victim of their conspiracy in Kashmir

This was their 'parting kick' to the Indian Muslims. The British later, created a third Palestine in Cyprus in which the Muslim Turks suffered heavy losses due to the British anti-Muslim policy.

NEW AFRO—ASIAN STATES

The nationalist movements started in the Afro-Asian countries during the Second World War period, compelled the imperialist powers, especially Britain, to withdraw with their bag and baggage from these countries. The British colonists were compelled to release from their occupation Egypt, Iraq, Nigeria, Zanzibar, British Somaliland and Sudan, all predominantly Muslim populated areas.

These countries heaved a sigh of relief when they gained their freedom from the British political and economic bondage. Iran, under the capable leadership of Dr. Mossadegh expelled the British from their oil monopoly. Egypt under the courageous guidance of President Jamal Nasser, drove the British from the Suez canal in 1956.

The American interest in the Middle East and its rich oil fields obliged Britain to leave the ground to its senior partner. But still

Britain continues to pursue its nefarious activities and politico-economic exploitation of the South Arabian States.

In South East Asia, Britain has sown the seeds of dissension between the two powerful Muslim States of Indonesia and Malaysia and has been encouraging the latter to fight the former. This has been done by Britain in order to maintain a balance of power in the area in their own hands.

Tragedy In Nigeria

In Nigeria, where its leaders Sir Abu Bakr and Ahmadu Bello were dreaming for a strong, united Muslim World, Britain smelled a danger for their global anti-Muslim policy. The Christian missionaries and the Christian officers class who had received a setback in their activities during the regime of Sir Abu Bakr and Ahmadu Bello were encouraged by the imperialist powers, especially Britain, to engineer a coup in which the two great Muslim Nigerian leaders were killed and the country passed into the hands of a Christian military junta.

--*--

INDO-PAKISTAN WAR OF 1965

Britain was partially exposed during the recent Indo-Pakistan war of 1965, when it gave lip sympathy to Pakistan, its ally in CENTO and SEATO, while, it advanced practical help to India by giving them four shiploads of ammunition and £ 10 million interest-free loan. It is said to have advised Turkey and Iran, two other CENTO allies of Pakistan not to help her in the Indo-Pakistan conflict. This anti-Pakistan British policy had been overlooked by the Pakistan Press in general which has rejoiced over the inspired Indian criticism of Britain's lip sympathy to Pakistan in the Indo-Pakistan conflict. Only the daily Nawa-i-Waqt could see the real British game in actively assisting India against her ally, Pakistan. It wrote an editorial, exposing the British game in the Indo - Pakistan conflict, which was much resented by by the British authorities.

The British Broadcasting Corporation (B.B.C.) which, later during the Bangla Desh

episode in 1971, toed the line of Indian propa. ganda and hence, was nick-named in Pakistan as Bharat Broadcasting Corporation had, 1965, announced the fall of Lahore without confirming it from Pakistan.

—*—

BANGLA DESH

The British hostility towards Pakistan was exposed in all its nakedness in their attitude towards the 'Bangla Desh' movement inspired and aided by the Indian Government. The Cat came out of the Bag. The British authorities - their Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary - their Parliamentarians, their Television, Radio (B.B.C.) and the Press have all played the dirty anti-Pakistan role and sided with India in her Bangla Desh campaign against Pakistan, a British ally in S E A T O and CENTO. The British papers and Radio have vied with each other in circulating false and mischievous stories against Pakistan. The B.B.C. which had broadcast the fall of Lahore during 1965 Indo-Pakistan War, shamelessly spread false anti-Pakistan rumours of imaginary atrocities in Bangla Desh. The so-called liberal British Press toed the line of the one-sided Indian propaganda and the representatives of the Times and Manchester Guardian published baseless coloured stories of happenings

in East Pakistan. The so-called journalistic honesty of the British Press was cast to winds.

Mr. I. P. M. Cargill, Chairman of the Aid to Pakistan Consortium, flagrantly abused his official position to vitiate judgement of economic issues and influence the members to toe the official British line against aid to Pakistan.

Dirty Role

At a time when the British army had been brutally suppressing the genuine grievances of the people of Northern Ireland, the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Elec Douglas-Home had shamelessly supported the Indian viewpoint of a political settlement in 'Bangla Desh', amounting to an interference in Pakistan's internal affairs.

The British Press, the B.B.C. and a number of responsible British Parliamentarians have betrayed a kind of synthetic hate and paranold hostility towards Pakistan.

Professor Rushbrook Williams, an enlightened and fairminded British historian regretted that what the British press and Radio said

about the situation in East Pakistan "were quite unfounded". He admitted many "distortions" and "misrepresentations" of the British Press and Radio about happenings in East Pakistan.

Britain has thus, proved herself the greatest enemy of the Muslim World and is the most formidable stumbling block in the path of Islamic unity and the formation of a Muslim bloc. which, if formed, will be of immenese importance and will hold a balance of power between the two contending blocs—Western and Communist.

—*—

Other Books by the Author

(1) Englishmen and Muslims (Urdu)

A comprehensive survey of British machinations and intrigues against the World of Islam well-documented and authentic book. (under print).

(2) Virasat-e-Islam (Urdu)

An enlighting and inspiring study into the material and spiritual development in the World of Islam.

Price Rs. 5.00

(3) Mashoor Musalman Sciencedan (Urdu) :

Life and achievements of some of the greatest Muslim Scientists.—"Book dispels prejudice against Muslim Science in West" (Pakistan Times); "An extremely useful and informative book" (Radio Pakistan); "A book based on extensive research" (Daily Jang).

Price Rs. 5.00

(4) Islami Tahzib Ke Gahwarey : (Urdu)

(Cradles of Muslim Civilization) : Study of 4o cities in the Muslim World which have contributed to the Islamic intellectual and cultural development (under print).

(5) Hundred Great Muslims (English) Rs. 35/-

(6) History of Islam (English) Rs. 12/50

URDU ACADEMY SIND

BUNDER ROAD, KARACHI